

Gambling Problems in Youth

Theoretical and Applied Perspectives

edited by

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"Half of what is known about gambling emerged during the 1990s. . . This book represents one of the very first building blocks upon which future gambling research and understanding will rest."

--From the Foreword by Prof. Howard J. Shaffer, Harvard Medical School.

The field of gambling studies has experienced tremendous growth in recent years. In fact, more research in this field has been published in the last fifteen years than in the hundred years before that. Yet the amount to learn and to study is greater still and will continue to grow as the gambling industry itself grows and as more young people find themselves drawn to the attractions of gambling. With government-sponsored or -regulated forms of gambling proliferating around the world, an entire generation of young people is being raised in an environment of ready access to many forms of gambling. The need for better understanding of the causes, treatment, and prevention of problems associated with gambling among young people is acute and growing.

Gambling Problems in Youth addresses that need by providing empirically based insights into a wide range of issues associated with gambling and adolescents. Contributions to this volume take up a number of key issues:

- correlates of youth gambling problems, such as suicide and depression, and drug abuse.
- neurodevelopment of adolescents, which sheds light on the important differences between youth and adult gambling constructs and problem
- measurement and assessment instruments
- treatment of youth gambling problems
- preventative measures

Finally, by taking on larger questions of social policy, *Gambling Problems in Youth* moves beyond the boundaries of the academy and clinic to place its subject in a discussion of informed and effective legislation.

As two of the leading researchers in the field, Dr. Jeffrey L. Derevensky and Dr. Rina Gupta bring together in one volume the most up-to-date findings from the leading researchers in this rapidly developing field. Drs. Derevensky and Gupta are Co-Directors of the International Centre for Youth Gambling Problems and High-Risk Behaviors. Both teach at McGill University in Montreal, Canada.

Gambling Problems in Youth will be invaluable to researchers, students, clinicians, school psychologists, and policy makers interested in the confluence of gambling and adolescents.

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